

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated February 17, 2004. Claims 1 to 4 are pending in the application. Claim 1 is the independent claim. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

As to a formal matter, the Office Action objected to the abstract. The abstract has been amended in accordance with the Office Action's suggestion, and therefore, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

With regard to the objection of the drawings, Figures 5, 9 and 10 have been amended to add a Prior Art legend as suggested by the Office Action. In addition, a drawing change is made to Figure 7, which has been amended for consistency with Figure 6 and the specification. Specifically, the thicknesses of the circles surrounding the H+, H- and L+, L- signals wires have been adjusted for consistency with those depicted in Figure 6.

Copies of the amended drawings are enclosed with the accompanying Letter Transmitting Formal Drawings.

The Office Action also objected to Figures 1, 2, 6, 7, 9 and 10 as allegedly lacking the proper cross-hatching. No amendments were made in this regard as the addition of cross-hatching would only serve to obscure the invention. The elements of these figures are believed to be clearly described in the specification, and the drawings are believed to comport with the spirit of 37 C.F.R. 1.84. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objections to the drawings is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,674,010 (Inui). Claims 2 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Inui in view

of applicant's alleged admission of prior art. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

The present invention relates to a shielded cable which includes first signal wires for transmitting relatively high frequency signals, second signal wires for transmitting relatively low frequency signal wires, and an outer shield which covers the first and second signal wires. One feature of the present invention lies in the placement of the first signal wires within the cable. The first signal wires are placed so that they are adjacent to the outer shield and adjacent to one another. In this way, the impedance of the first signal wires is stabilized, and radiant noise is reduced.

With specific reference to the claims, independent Claim 1 recites a shielded cable that comprises first signal wires for transmitting digital signals of a relatively high frequency, second signal wires for transmitting digital signals of a relatively low frequency; and an outer shield with which the first and second signal wires are collectively covered. Each of the first and second signal wires is bundled in a state of being electrically insulated from each other with an insulation sheath. Also, the first signal wires are placed adjacent to the outer shield and adjacent to one another.

The applied art is not seen to teach the features of Claim 1, and in particular is not seen to teach or suggest first signal wires for transmitting digital signals of a relatively high frequency, wherein the first signal wires are placed adjacent to an outer shield and adjacent to one another.

Inui relates to an electronic device connection cable. Inui is seen to teach an electronic device connection cable 201 that contains high-speed signal lines 301 (including

signal lines 302 and clock lines 303), low-speed signal lines 304, and ground lines 305 (column 8, lines 24-33; Figure 2). Inui further teaches that electronic device connection cable 201 contains a woven metal shield 313 (column 8, lines 39-41; Figure 2). The Office Action equates Inui's high-speed signal lines 301 with the first signal wires of the present invention.

However, as seen in Figure 2 of Inui, high-speed signal lines 301 are not arranged in the manner recited in the claims. Inui's high-speed signal lines are interspersed throughout the cable and not placed adjacent to one another. In fact, Inui shows that high-speed signal lines 301 are placed adjacent to ground lines 305.

As such, Inui is not seen to teach first signal wires for transmitting digital signals of a relatively high frequency, wherein the first signal wires are placed adjacent to an outer shield and adjacent to one another. Accordingly, based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, independent Claim 1 is believed to allowable over the applied reference.

The other claims in the application are each dependent from the independent claims and are believed to be allowable over the applied references for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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